

a private operation will all be taken care of in this amendment. Now I'm going to tell you where you can find the amendment. On page 3, in line 25, you'd strike the semi-colon, and this is the language which talks about what the policy cabinet is. This is the existing language, then I'll tell you what I want to add. Line 23 on page 3 says, "Policy Cabinet means the directors of the departments and the Policy Secretary, and is not intended to create or imply the creation of a separate legal entity;" I strike the semi-colon and add "or a public body subject to sections 84-1408 to 84-1414". So what it's...all of this now is designed to make clear is that the policy cabinet consists of the policy secretary and the directors of these departments, that they will not constitute a separate legal entity or a public body subject to the open meetings laws. Then on page 8, because this language will have been adopted, we would strike the last sentence of Section 9, which would be found in lines 20 and 21 of page 8. This is the language that would be stricken, "The Policy Cabinet is not a public body and its meetings are not subject to sections 84-1408 to 84-1414." If you followed the explanation, you will know what I said. If you didn't follow the explanation, rest assured that I have talked to those who are sponsoring this bill and want to have it passed. I'm saying that even though I'm offering this amendment, which in my mind will improve and make clear what's being said about this policy cabinet, I still am in opposition to the bill. But since it looks like the bill is going to pass, I don't want anything to be misconstrued. The language on page 8, which says in the negative, that the policy cabinet is not a public body. I don't want to give the impression that somehow we're saying that even though these are public employees, conducting the public's business, they are not deemed really to be engaged in public activity and some kind of private work is going on here. So to take away the concern that I have, it has been agreed to strike that language altogether. But to make certain that the introducers of this nefarious bill get what it is that they want, in terms of protecting the activities of this cabinet from the open meetings law, we would insert the language that I inserted, which says, in effect, that this cabinet, in which there may be many skeletons rattling around, but I'm not sure because I haven't inspected it. But anyway, this cabinet, it does not constitute a separate legal entity nor a public body subject to the open meeting, open meetings laws. And the reason the term "public body" is used is because the open meeting laws are tied into that term "public body". If you have